# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ELSEVIER INC., BEDFORD, FREEMAN & WORTH PUBLISHING GROUP, LLC d/b/a MACMILLAN LEARNING, CENGAGE LEARNING, INC., MCGRAW HILL LLC, and PEARSON EDUCATION, INC.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DOES 1 - 86 d/b/a 7YEC.COM, ALIBABADOWNLOAD.COM, APLUSTBSM.BLOGSPOT.COM, BOOSTGRADE.INFO, BUDDIEZ4U.MYSHOPIFY.COM, BUY-SOLUTIONS-MANUAL.COM, BUYTESTBANKONLINE.COM, CANADIANTESTBANKSOLUTIONS.BLOGSPOT .COM, COLLEGESTUDENTTEXTBOOK.ORG, CYBERTESTBANK.COM, DIGITALTESTBANKS.COM, DIGTEXT.COM, EBOOKAS.COM, EBOOKENTRY.COM, ETESTBANKS.COM, FINDTESTBANKS.COM, HOMETESTBANKS.COM, HWPREMIUM.COM, INSTRUCTORACCESS.COM, MAXIZZY.MYSHOPIFY.COM, NURSINGSTUDENTSHELP.COM, NURSINGTB.COM, NURSINGTESTBANK.INFO, NURSINGTESTBANKO.INFO, NURSINGTESTBANKS.CO, NURSINGTESTBANKTANK.COM. REALNURSINGTESTBANK.COM, RHYIBLE.MYSHOPIFY.COM, SOLUTIONSMANUAL888.WORDPRESS.COM, SOLUTIONTESTBANK.COM, SOLUTIONTESTBANK.NET, STUDENT-SAVER.BLOGSPOT.COM, STUDENTPUSH.COM, STUDENTS-EXAMS.COM, SWEETGRADES.COM, TB-BOOK.COM, TBMIRATE.COM, TEST-BANK-SOLUTION.BLOGSPOT.COM. TESTBANK.CC. TESTBANK.CO.COM, TESTBANK.SOLUTIONS, TESTBANK101.COM, TESTBANK2020.COM,

Civil Action No.

TESTBANKAIR.COM, TESTBANKANDSOLUTIONS.BLOGSPOT.COM, TESTBANKAREA.COM, TESTBANKBASE.COM, TESTBANKBYTE.COM, TESTBANKCLASSES.COM, TESTBANKCLICK.COM, TESTBANKDATA.COM, TESTBANKDB.COM, TESTBANKDEALS.COM, TESTBANKDOC.COM, TESTBANKFILES.COM, TESTBANKFIRE.COM, TESTBANKGRADE.COM, TESTBANKGROUP.COM, TESTBANKHOST.COM, TESTBANKHUT.COM, TESTBANKINC.COM, TESTBANKKING.COM, TESTBANKLAB.COM, TESTBANKLIB.COM, TESTBANKMANUALS.COM, TESTBANKNSOLUTIONS.COM, TESTBANKPAPER.COM, TESTBANKPASS.COM, TESTBANKPLANET.COM, TESTBANKQUESTIONS.COM, TESTBANKREAL.COM, TESTBANKS-SOLUTIONMANUAL.COM, TESTBANKS.NET, TESTBANKSHOP.NET, TESTBANKSLIST.WORDPRESS.COM, TESTBANKSOLUTION01.COM, TESTBANKSOLUTIONMANUAL.COM, TESTBANKSTER.COM, TESTBANKTEAM.COM, TESTBANKTOP.COM, TESTBANKTREE.COM, TESTBANKWORLD.ORG, TESTBANKY.COM, TESTMANGO.COM, TEXTBOOKSOLUTIONS.CC, and UNIVERSALSTUDYGUIDES.COM,

Defendants.

#### **DECLARATION OF JESSICA STITT**

I, **JESSICA STITT**, hereby declare, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, as follows:

1. I am employed by Cengage Learning, Inc. ("Cengage") as the Manager of Global Anti-Piracy. I have worked for Cengage for over 15 years. Among other responsibilities, I focus on enforcement of Cengage's intellectual property rights, including the protection of its copyrights

and trademarks in connection with online piracy matters.

2. I submit this declaration in support of Plaintiffs' *Ex Parte* Application for a Temporary Restraining Order, Order to Show Cause Why a Preliminary Injunction Should Not Issue, Order Authorizing Expedited Discovery, and Order Authorizing Alternate Service (the "Application") in the above-captioned case. I have knowledge of the facts stated herein based on personal knowledge and my review of the documents, files, websites, and other items referenced herein. If called upon to do so, I am able to testify competently to the matters as stated herein.

### CENGAGE'S BUSINESS AND VALUABLE WORKS AND MARKS

- 3. Cengage is a leading educational publisher in the United States. Cengage develops, markets, distributes, licenses, and sells a comprehensive range of traditional and digital educational content and tools to professionals, educators, and students. Cengage's publications include physical and digital textbooks. These textbooks are widely available in the United States marketplace to consumers for a fee. They are sold through direct sales channels and via legitimate distributors and stores, including through online sales, and are among the most popular and widely used titles in their fields.
- 4. Cengage also publishes instructor solutions manuals ("ISMs") and test banks, which are important supplemental materials to textbooks. ISMs are guides that provide answers and solutions to questions contained within the textbook. Test banks are sets of questions, and, in some instances, corresponding answers, to be used by the professor or instructor who assigned the textbook for his or her course. Professors and instructors use these supplemental materials to create lesson plans, homework assignments, exams, and/or for grading purposes. Accordingly, to preserve their pedagogical value, these supplemental materials are not generally distributed to the public.

- 5. ISMs and test banks are specific to a given textbook or series of textbooks. As such, these supplemental materials are tailored to the pedagogical approach of the works to which they correspond.
- 6. ISMs and test banks contain additional content beyond what is in the textbook. For instance, in the way that creative efforts go into creating or selecting questions, whether for inclusion in the textbook or its corresponding test bank, similar creative efforts go into developing the answers and solutions in the ISMs and test banks. Countless decisions are made concerning answer choices, wording, examples, approach, depth, and other substantive details.
- 7. Cengage is the copyright owner of, and/or the owner of exclusive rights under copyright in, among many others, its works or derivative works described on **Exhibit A** to the Complaint (the "Authentic Works"). Cengage or its predecessors or affiliates have obtained copyright registrations, duly issued by the United States Copyright Office, covering the Authentic Works.
- 8. Cengage is the owner or the exclusive licensee of, among others, its trademarks and/or service marks described on **Exhibit B** to the Complaint (the "Marks"). Cengage or its predecessors or affiliates have duly registered the Marks on the Principal Register of the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Along with the Marks, Cengage publishes its works under a variety of other valuable and recognizable imprints, or brands, described on **Exhibit C** to the Complaint, including, for example, Delmar, Gale, Wadsworth, and National Geographic Learning, among others. Cengage has invested decades of effort in building a reputation of quality in the publishing industry, which consumers associate with its works, trademarks, imprints, and brands.

#### **DEFENDANTS' INFRINGING ACTIVITIES**

9. Defendants own, control, and/or operate websites that reproduce Cengage's ISMs

and/or test banks, and sometimes Cengage's textbooks, and sell and distribute those copies of Cengage's works to students and other consumers in the United States and elsewhere. Cengage has not granted any license or otherwise authorized Defendants to copy, distribute, or sell electronic (or other) copies of its works.

- 10. Defendants also use identical or substantially indistinguishable reproductions of Cengage's trademarks in connection with the sale and/or offering for sale of unauthorized copies of Cengage's ISMs, test banks, and/or textbooks. Cengage has not granted any license or otherwise authorized Defendants to use Cengage's trademarks in advertising or selling Defendants' goods and services.
- 11. Through their infringing websites, Defendants sell copies of the Authentic Works identified on Exhibit A to the Complaint. The Authentic Works included on Exhibit A (and, in turn, the Marks on Exhibit B) are by no means an exhaustive list of Cengage's works sold by Defendants.
- 12. At Cengage's request, Dan Seymour at Oppenheim + Zebrak, LLP ("O+Z"), and a team working under his supervision, obtained copies of the Authentic Works from Defendants' websites, through purchases or free samples. I confirmed that the files obtained by Mr. Seymour and his team are unauthorized copies of the Authentic Works.
- 13. Additionally, at Cengage's request, Mr. Seymour and his team captured evidence of listings, product pages, or other similar webpages or advertisements from or for Defendants' websites. I reviewed these materials and confirmed that they show Defendants' offers to sell unauthorized copies of Cengage's works and display unauthorized and identical or substantially indistinguishable reproductions of the relevant Marks.
  - 14. Cengage does not currently know the Defendants' true identities and locations

because Defendants hide behind their infringing websites and the anonymity of the internet.

#### **HARM TO CENGAGE**

- 15. Cengage invests significant monies to publish its copyrighted works. Cengage makes substantial investments, for example, in content creation and in promotion of its copyrighted works published under its trademarks. Defendants' sale of unauthorized copies of Cengage's ISMs and test banks steals the fruits of Cengage's and its authors' creative efforts and monetary investments and diminishes interest among teaching professionals to use the associated textbooks for their classes. A substantial decline in their income could cause Cengage to cease publishing one or more deserving books. This would adversely impact the creation of new works, scholarly endeavors, and the education of students in the United States.
- 16. By providing students with unauthorized access to materials that teaching professionals use for assignments and on exams, Defendants' activity undermines the integrity of the educational process, as well as diminishes the value of Cengage's ISMs and test banks and, as a result, the corresponding textbooks. Professors and instructors are often reluctant to adopt a textbook for their course if the test bank for the book is freely and widely available.
- 17. Moreover, Defendants' sales corrupt the educational process by facilitating cheating. Students who cheat to obtain better grades instead of studying and asking questions are depriving themselves of valuable learning, taking unfair advantage of students who do not cheat, and depriving their professors or instructors of valuable feedback. Cheating can also lead to unqualified students entering the workforce, thus impacting the general public. Moreover, when the utility and value of Cengage's ISMs and test banks are diminished, even greater demands are placed on educators, causing them to re-invent the wheel and cutting into valuable time that could be used to otherwise enhance the educational experience. Indeed, where a test bank has become

available to students through cheating websites like Defendants', it is not uncommon for professors or instructors who have adopted the corresponding textbook to express concerns to Cengage and seek assistance to help mitigate the harm to the pedagogical process caused by the illegal distribution of these materials. And as Cengage's supplementary materials comprise a key part of the educational process, when they are copied and distributed without authorization, the result is also harm to Cengage's reputation in the educational communities it serves and beyond.

18. I am not aware of any counterclaims Defendants could have against Cengage.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

JESSICA STITT

Executed on this \_\_\_\_ th day of October 2020.